



Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities

Celebrating 34 Years of Leadership & Advocacy

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MEMBERS

Janet A. Neal
President

John B. Troost
1st Vice President

Wan Chun Chang
2nd Vice President

Alexia Teran
Treasurer

Michael G. Gureckas
Maria Mustelier-Parrish
Harley D. Rubenstein
Kecia Weller
Wendy L. Welt
Sheila D. Wright

MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities was held on Wednesday, September 16, 2009, in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Janet A. Neal at 1:13 p.m. The following were present:

ATTENDANCE

Janet A. Neal, President
John B. Troost, 1st Vice President
Alexia Teran, Treasurer
Maria Mustelier-Parrish
Harley Rubenstein
Kecia B. Weller
Wendy L. Welt
Sheila Wright

Excused Absence

Wan Chun Chang, 2nd Vice President
Michael G. Gureckas

Board of Supervisors

Rhonda Rangel, Staff
Mireya Rivera, Staff
Emma De Jesus, Staff
Audra Galang, Staff

Los Angeles County

Kurt Hagen, OAAC

Access Services, Inc.

Luis Pacheco

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2009

On motion of Commissioner Welt, seconded by Commissioner Weller, unanimously carried, the minutes of August 19, 2009 were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Block provided public comment.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Neal reported on the following:

1. The Bill Tainter Scholarship presentation and reception held September 16, 2009 was well organized and acknowledged staff for a job well done.
2. Addressed the Members of the Public about disruptive behavior. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated by the Commission. Members of the Public not wishing to listen to presenters before the Commission may excuse themselves or will be asked to leave the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No reportable action was taken. By common consent, the Treasurer's report was continued to the next scheduled meeting.

STAFF REPORT

Rhonda Rangel, Commission Service Staff, reported the following:

- A "Save the Date Flyer" about a Televideo Town Hall Meeting to be held, October 5, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be focusing on the current California Program Budget Cuts.
- An information e-mail memo submitted by the Department of Public Health was shared to inform everyone "Don't Feed the Wild Animals". Because of the increased wild fires, there are a number of wild animals that were displaced. Citizens were cautioned about feeding displaced animals.
- Commissioners were reminded about the Brown Act Workshop on Thursday, September 24, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Hall of Administration Building, 500 West Temple Street, Room 381-B. The training is not mandatory. All Commissioners are invited to attend. The workshop flyer was shared.

President Neal requested updates to the Brown Act be collected and shared to all Commission members.

(Commissioner Sheila D. Wright joined the meeting at 1:55 p.m.)

PRESENTATION FROM MS. LAURA G. HULL, THE CENTER FOR HEALTH CARE RIGHTS

Laura G. Hull is an Education and Outreach Specialist of the Center for Health Care Rights. The Center is a nonprofit advocacy and counseling center for people who have Medicare. Ms. Hull elaborated on the current changes and cuts to the Medi-Cal and Medicare programs.

After discussion, Commissioner Welt requested Ms. Hull send a copy of the State Notice of Benefit cuts be forwarded to Commission staff for distribution.

President Neal thanked Ms. Hull for her informative presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

Chair Neal reported to the Committee members will meet after the regular meeting at 3:00 p.m.

B. Public Relations Committee

Radio Program – Disability Network, KTYM 1460 AM
No reportable action was taken.

C. Events Committee

Chair Neal announced the selected recipients of the following 2009 Access Awards except of 1st District:

- **Bill Barty Award** – I.AM.PWD (Inclusion in the Arts and Media for People with Disabilities)
- **Nadia Powers Leadership Award** – Rafer Johnson
- **Chairperson Award** – Sharon Crittendon
- **Pearl Ella Johnson Award** – The Beauty Bus Foundation
- **Jane Small Advocacy Award** – Stephen Simon

- **2nd District** – Consuella Mackey
- **3rd District** – Deaf West Theater
- **4th District** – Angela Madsen
- **5th District** – Winnie Reitnouer

Invitations are expected to be distributed next week.

D. Bill Tainter Scholarship Program

On motion of Commissioner Weller, seconded by Commissioner Teran, and unanimously carried, the purchase of refreshments for the scholarship reception in the amount of \$250 was approved.

Daniel Garcia addressed the Commission about the selection of Bill Tainter Scholarships.

After discussion, no further action was taken.

E. Community Service Committee

No reportable action was taken.

TRANSPORTATION

A. Access Services, Inc. (ASI) Report

Kurt Hagen reported on the most recent Access Services, Inc, Board meeting was held on August 24, 2009.

- Newly elected Board members were appointed because of an election.
- Because of the significant delays with securing the MOU for the Prop C funds with Metro, the Board approved a line of credit with Union Bank for an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000.
- The idea of succession planning was addressed to develop key competencies models to lead Access in future advancement in supervisory roles.
- The Miles of Smiles Campaign is a Customer Service improvement program designed to enhance customer service experience for the rider when interacting with reservations staff and drivers.

Daniel Garcia addressed the Commission.

After discussion, Commissioner Wright made a recommendation for Access Services to provide training to constituents on the process of filing a complaint as a part of their recertification and start the path of educating riders.

After further discussion, Mr. Hagen's report was received and filed.

B. LA County Transportation Authority (METRO) Report

No reportable action was taken.

Office of Affirmative Action Compliance Report

Gordon Anthony is still out on leave. The current estimated date of his return is November 2009. Mr. Kurt Hagen will be serving in his capacity.

Kurt C. Hagen reported the Disability Civil Rights was completed its updates of the 39 County Department's Transition and Self-Evaluation Plans. The Office of Affirmative Action Compliance is now working with the departments to analyze and implement said Transition and Self-Evaluation Plans.

President Neal requested information on the requirements for ADA access for slips at the Marina be forwarded to staff for distribution.

Commissioner Rubenstein requested for a timeline on when the Ernest T. Hamilton access ramp will be built. There was no definitive timeline given. Mr. Hagen and his office are currently working with all five Board offices, Building Management within the Hall of Administration and the Chief Executive Office. Once the project has broken ground for approval, his office will be addressing the Board of Supervisors for dedication.

ITEM NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION ON A FUTURE AGENDA

Commissioner Wright recommended all issues that the Commission tracks, such as Medi-Cal, be tracked in order to give proper documentation to the Board of Supervisors.

Announcements

President Neal announced the invitation she received on "*Anti-Viral for HIV*" Project to be held in New York.

Commissioner Rubenstein reminded the Commission on the Access Awards Luncheon to be held Monday, October 19, 2009. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2009.

Commissioner Parrish announced a proposal to form and chair a Safety Policy Networking Committee. She shared a hand out with the Commissioners.

Daniel Garcia announced the 2009 Disability Awareness Day on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at the parking lot of 4716 East Cesar Chavez Avenue, Los Angeles. He encouraged everyone to attend.

Adjournments

On motion of Commissioner Weller, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and unanimously carried, the regular meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. to the Executive Committee meeting.

GUESTS

Maria T. Benitez, Fair Housing Foundation

Linda Block

Daniel Garcia, Community Rehabilitation Services, Inc.

Darlene Geyer, Accommodating Ideas, Inc.

Dianne Nosch, Accommodating Ideas, Inc.

Laura G. Hull, Center for Health Care Rights

Cindy Vitto, Los Angeles Client Coalition Center